

HOUSE RESOLUTION 215
By Jones U (Shel)

A RESOLUTION to honor the International Association of Black Professional Fire Fighters.

WHEREAS, once in a great while there comes along a special organization of people with a dedicated leadership who, because of their unlimited capacity for service, dedicate their time to shaping lives, and thereby help to build a better and brighter community; and

WHEREAS, the International Association of Black Professional Fire Fighters is one such organization; founded in 1969, Black and minority firefighters from municipalities across the United States met in New York City to discuss injustices that exist in the programs and policies of the fire departments from municipalities across the United States; and

WHEREAS, in October 1970, the first convention of Black Professional Fire Fighters was held in Hartford, Connecticut at which time the constitution and structure of the Association was adopted; and

WHEREAS, the Association seeks to make the fire service more relevant to the needs and aspirations of minority citizens; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Association is to create a liaison between Blacks across the nation, to collect and evaluate data on all deleterious conditions incumbent in all areas where minorities reside, and to compile information concerning the injustices that exist in the working conditions in the Fire Service, and implement actions to correct them; and

WHEREAS, one of the aims of the Association is to promote interracial progress throughout the Fire Service and to see that competent Blacks are recruited and employed as firefighters, wherever they reside; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we hereby recognize, honor, and commend the International Association of Black Professional Fire Fighters for their long record of outstanding service and we extend to them our most sincere wishes for their continued success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

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